

We claim:

1. A method of protecting a lost or stolen mobile communications terminal having a terminal identifier from unauthorized use comprising:
 - placing the mobile communications terminal in a Protected Mode without deactivating the mobile communications terminal's terminal identifier;
 - preventing outgoing calls from being made from the mobile communications terminal in the Protected Mode; and
 - redirecting incoming calls destined for the mobile communications terminal in the Protected Mode.
2. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the identifier is an Electronic Serial Number (ESN).
3. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the redirecting step includes redirecting the incoming calls to the mobile communications terminal's voicemail system.
4. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the redirecting step includes redirecting the incoming calls to a forwarding number.
5. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the placing step includes the subscriber placing the terminal in the Protected Mode.
6. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the placing step includes the subscriber placing the terminal in the Protected Mode using a web site.
7. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the placing step includes the mobile communications service provider placing the terminal in the Protected Mode.
8. The method defined in claim 1 further comprising locating the terminal when a call is attempted to be made from the mobile terminal in Protected Mode.

9. A system for protecting a lost or stolen mobile communications terminal having a terminal identifier from unauthorized use comprising:

a mobile communications terminal having a terminal identifier and a Protected Mode for preventing unauthorized use without deactivation of the terminal identifier;

means for preventing outgoing calls from being made from the mobile communications terminal while in the Protected Mode; and

means for redirecting incoming calls destined for the mobile communications terminal while in the Protected Mode.

10. The system defined in claim 9 wherein the means for redirecting incoming calls includes means for redirecting incoming calls to the Voice Mail System of the mobile communications terminal.

11. The system defined in claim 9 wherein the means for redirecting incoming calls includes means for redirecting incoming calls to another terminal.

12. The system defined in claim 9 wherein the means for preventing outgoing calls from being made from the mobile communications terminal includes a Call Session Manager.

13. The system defined in claim 12 wherein the Call Session Manager is a Mobile Switching Center.

14. The system defined in claim 12 wherein the Call Session Manager is an Internet Protocol Multimedia Subsystem.